AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~client-server computer~~ system for use with web-based applications comprising:

a client computer system running one or more web browsers capable of processing web forms;

a web server communicating with the client computer system and providing validation services, the web server capable of processing Java code and web-based forms, the web server receiving a validation request from the client computer system that comprises data fields for validation;

a storage mechanism coupled to said web server ~~computer system~~, the ~~wherein said~~ web server ~~is used for~~ validating the data fields with information compiled from said storage mechanism;

tables of validation rules stored in said storage mechanism, the validation rules changing the data fields to be validated to ASCII character strings, the validation rules also changing a validation function from checking between two integer values to checking for membership in a set ~~an IsBetween method to an IsMember method~~, the validation rules comprising at least three hierarchically organized views, with each view utilizing an execution sequence of validation methods, the execution sequence designating an order of execution for the validation methods, and when a view has no validation rules, then a lower priority view's execution sequence is performed, the validation rules having a FIELD view as a highest priority validation such that a least amount of the data fields are sorted by the FIELD view, and when a FIELD name occurs in a table, then the for highest priority validation is performed; and

the web server comparing the data fields to be validated to the validation rules~~;~~,

~~wherein each execution sequence designates an order of execution for the validation methods; and~~

wherein each validation method compares validation values to the data fields.

2. (Currently Amended) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein the tables of validation rules utilize a CLASS view as a second-highest priority validation, the CLASS view used when there is no matching entry in the FIELD view, the tables of validation rules performing a check for class names that match a first part of the field name ~~change the validation function from a check between two integer values to a check for membership of a set, and if a view has no validation rules, then a lower priority view's execution sequence is performed~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein the tables of validation rules type cast a single value integer, and when any data field does not have an entry in the FIELD and the CLASS view, the tables of validation rules using a generic GLOBAL view.

4. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein the validation rules type cast an integer as a string.

5. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein the validation rules change legacy data to the ACSII character string.

6. (Previously Presented) client-server computer system according to claim 5, wherein the validation rules change the legacy data to check for membership in a data set of ASCII character strings.

7. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein the validation rules validate an entire set of data.

8. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 7, wherein the validation rules return individual validation statuses in a hash table.

9. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein said validation rules validate weekday, date available, and date of expiration for long distance telephone service.

10. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein each validation rule includes an associated application tag that differentiates versions of an application.

11. (Previously Presented) A client-server computer system according to claim 1, wherein each validation rule includes an associated application tag that differentiates instances of an application and version for different users.

12. (Currently Amended) A web server system comprising:

at least one web application;

means for performing validation service on data fields submitted by said at least one web application;

means for processing web forms;

means for storing and retrieving tables of validation rules stored in a storage mechanism, the validation rules changing the data fields to be validated to ASCII character strings, the validation rules also changing a validation function from checking between two integer values to checking for membership in a set, the validation rules comprising at least three hierarchically organized views, with each view utilizing an execution sequence of validation methods, the execution sequence designating an order of execution for the validation methods, and when a view has no validation rules, then a lower priority view's execution sequence is performed, the validation rules having a FIELD view as a highest priority validation such that a least amount of the data fields are sorted by the FIELD view, and when a FIELD name occurs in a table, then the for highest priority validation is performed;

~~means for storing and retrieving validation rules for performing said validation service, the validation rules changing data to be validated to ASCII character strings, the~~

~~validation rules also changing a validation function from an IsBetween method to an IsMember method, the validation rules comprising at least three hierarchically organized views, with each view utilizing an execution sequence of validation methods;~~

~~wherein each execution sequence designates an order of execution for the validation methods;~~

wherein each validation method compares validation values to the data fields; and

means for compiling the validation rules into said at least one web application in order to perform said validation service.

13. (Currently Amended) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein the tables of validation rules utilize a CLASS view as a second-highest priority validation, the CLASS view used when there is no matching entry in the FIELD view, the tables of validation rules performing a check for class names that match a first part of the field name ~~change the validation function from a check between two integer values to a check for membership of a set, and if a view has no validation rules, then a lower priority view's execution sequence is performed~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein the tables of validation rules type cast a single value integer, and when any data field does not have an entry in the FIELD and the CLASS view, the tables of validation rules using a generic GLOBAL view.

15. (Original) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein said validation rules type cast an integer as a string.

16. (Previously Presented) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein the validation rules change legacy data to the ASCII character string values.

17. (Previously Presented) A web server system according to claim 16, wherein the validation rules change the legacy data to check for membership in a data set of ASCII character strings.

18. (Previously Presented) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein the validation rules validate an entire set of data.

19. (Previously Presented) A web server system according to claim 18, wherein the validation rules return individual validation statuses in a hash table.

20. (Previously Presented) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein the validation rules validate weekday, date available, and date of expiration for long distance telephone service.

21. (Previously Presented) A web server system according to claim 12, wherein each validation rule includes an associated application tag that differentiates instances of an application and version for different users.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable media ~~medium~~ with instructions executable by a processor for providing a validation application service for web-based applications, the media ~~medium~~ comprising instructions to:

couple a service request from a data device to a web server, the request including data to be validated;

generate a service session instruction, the service session instruction based at least in part on the service request;

send the service session instruction to one or more web servers, the service session instruction corresponding to one or more data validation requests from said customer data device;

compile at least one page based on stored validation rules in a database, the validation rules changing the data to be validated to ASCII character strings, the

validation rules also changing a validation function from checking between two integer values to checking for membership in a set, the validation rules comprising at least three hierarchically organized views, with each view utilizing an execution sequence of validation methods, the execution sequence designating an order of execution for the validation methods, and when a view has no validation rules, then a lower priority view's execution sequence is performed, the validation rules having a FIELD view as a highest priority validation such that a least amount of the data fields are sorted by the FIELD view, and when a FIELD name occurs in a table, then the for highest priority validation is performed ~~an IsBetween method to an IsMember method, the validation rules comprising at least three hierarchically organized views, with each view utilizing an execution sequence of validation methods, wherein each execution sequence designates an order of execution for the validation methods, and wherein each validation method compares validation values to the data~~; and

send a validation service response to the data device, wherein the validation service response is based on the service request.

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